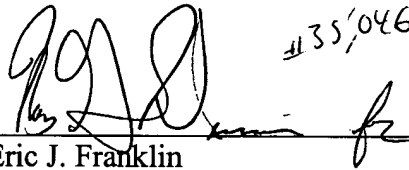


## Remarks

Claims 11-26 are before the Examiner. Applicants have rewritten claims 1-10 as new claims 11-26 to delete multiple dependencies to reduce the filing fee. Applicants have also deleted reference characters. The present invention is not limited to any particular embodiment described and/or shown in the specification and/or drawings. Additionally, Applicants have placed the claims in a format more along the lines of standard U.S. practice. Furthermore, Applicants have amended the Abstract to delete reference characters and to place it in standard U.S. format. An early examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Franklin", is written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the handwritten number "35,046" is visible.

Date: July 19, 2004

Eric J. Franklin  
Registration No. 37,134  
VENABLE LLP  
P.O. Box 34385  
Washington, DC 20043-9998  
Telephone: (202) 344-4936  
Facsimile: (202) 344-8300